

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claim 33.

Please cancel Claims 45 and 47-54.

1.-32. (canceled)

33. (currently amended) A method of ~~exchanging gases in~~ modulating a light source, the method comprising:

providing a hollow tube having a first end with a first endcap and a second end with a second endcap, an inlet valve and a first electrode associated with the first end and an outlet valve and a second electrode associated with the second end;

opening the inlet and outlet valves to provide for a simultaneous exchange modification of gases between said first electrode and said second electrode;

flowing a portion of a first gas from between said first and second electrodes out of the light source through the outlet valve without a pump, and simultaneously flowing a second gas through the inlet valve into between said first and second electrodes without a pump, said first gas being different from said second gas; and

closing the inlet and outlet valves.

34. (previously presented) The method of Claim 33, wherein the first gas is selected from the group consisting of: inert gases, krypton, argon, neon, xenon, helium, mercury, neon/helium mixture, neon/argon mixture, oxygen, hydrogen, deuterium, and nitrogen.

35. (previously presented) The method of Claim 33, wherein the second gas is selected from the group consisting of: inert gases, krypton, argon, neon, xenon, helium, mercury, neon/helium mixture, neon/argon mixture, oxygen, hydrogen, deuterium, and nitrogen.

36. (previously presented) The method of Claim 33, wherein the first gas is selected from the group consisting of: inert gases, krypton, argon, neon, xenon, helium, mercury, neon/helium mixture, neon/argon mixture, oxygen, hydrogen, deuterium, and nitrogen; and the second gas is selected from the group consisting of: inert gases, krypton, argon, neon, xenon, helium, mercury, neon/helium mixture, neon/argon mixture, oxygen, hydrogen, deuterium, and nitrogen.

LAW OFFICES OF  
MACPHERSON, KWOK CHEN  
& HUI LLP

2182 MICHELSON DRIVE  
SUITE 210  
IRVINE, CA 92612  
(949) 752-7040  
FAX (949) 752-7049

37. (previously presented) The method of Claim 33, wherein the inlet and outlet valves include seals to prevent gas from leaking past or through the valves from the tube.

38. (previously presented) The method of Claim 33, wherein the hollow tube comprises a straight hollow tube shape.

39. (previously presented) The method of Claim 33, wherein the hollow tube comprises a serpentine shaped hollow tube.

40. (previously presented) The method of Claim 33, wherein the light source comprises a lamp array of serially connected light sources.

41. (previously presented) The method of Claim 33, wherein the hollow tube comprises a rectangular planar shaped hollow tube.

42. (previously presented) The method of Claim 33, wherein the hollow tube comprises a spiral shaped hollow tube.

43. (previously presented) The method of Claim 33, wherein the hollow tube comprises a ring shaped hollow tube.

44. (previously presented) The method of Claim 33, wherein the hollow tube comprises a channel shaped hollow tube.

45.-54. (canceled)

LAW OFFICES OF  
MACPHERSON, KWOK CHEN  
& HEID LLP

2402 MICHELSON DRIVE  
SUITE 210  
IRVINE, CA 92612  
(949) 753-7048  
FAX (949) 753-7049